

SAVED IN SIN OR FROM SIN?

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The mainstream thought throughout the professed Christian churches today is that we will ALL continue to sin right up until Jesus returns, and that no person can live a sin free life, as Christians. Is this a correct Biblical stance? No, it is not only unbiblical, but a very dangerous position. A position that, if held in your life, could lose you your salvation. That's how important this is. So what is the TRUTH? Let's begin with some inspired words from the apostle Peter:

2 Peter 1:2-4 ...'*Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord, according as his divine power hath given unto us **all things that pertain unto life and godliness**, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be **partakers of the divine nature**, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.*'

First of all, what does this Bible verse clearly reveal? Does it say that we are given 'SOME' things that pertain to godliness? No it confirms we have available through Jesus Christ the power over ALL THINGS, which includes sin. It also confirms that we can even be partakers of the divine nature! Wow! Right now? Partakers of the divine? Yes! But how is this possible? Think carefully about this ...

Before Jesus came to this earth 2000 years ago, what was His nature? He was a **Divine Being**. When Jesus came to this earth what was His nature? He was **fully man** (Philippians 2:6-8). So what is Jesus' nature now, after His death, resurrection and ascension to heaven? **He is a Divine Human**, meaning He has taken part in the divine nature AND human nature, and has been exalted and glorified by the Father to the right hand of God (Philippians 2:9, Acts 2:33)

So how can we mere humans be partakers of the divine nature? We can because we have an 'advocate' in heaven who has taken part of both the divine and human nature. We have an 'advocate' in heaven who has lived on earth as fully man, being tempted in all points as we are, yet without sin (Hebrews 4:15). So Jesus Christ is able to impart to us (humans) the power to partake of the divine, because He is Himself a divine human being, who knows what it's like to have the fallen nature we have, yet **OVERCOME** through a Spirit filled life of faith and obedience to the Father.

*Ephesians 3:14-20 ...'For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, that he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by His Spirit in the inner man; That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, **THAT YE MIGHT BE FILLED WITH ALL THE FULNESS OF GOD**. Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us.'*

This is the 'promise of the Father' which Jesus confirmed He would give to the disciples in Luke 24:49. The promise to impart Christ's Spirit to them (and us) which would enable us to be 'partakers of the divine'

*Galatians 2:20 ...'I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but **Christ liveth in me**: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.'*

So the question is, have you truly accepted this gift? Are you partaking of the divine nature, allowing Christ to live in you through His Spirit, enabling you to live the life that He lived and overcome sin? Friend, this is such an important truth to grasp, because many professed Christians are heading right for the lake of fire, thinking they can merely 'believe' in Jesus and yet continue in sin. But Peter was very clear that we can be partakers of the divine, and there is no way we would continue in wilful sin if we partake of Christ's divine nature, no way!

Now, we are not saying that you will stop sinning right away once you give your life to Jesus Christ. We may still fall into temptation, and if you do, then we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous (1 John 2:1). What we are saying is that a change will take place in your life with Jesus, and you will **become** perfected in Him. It is a journey of sanctification in Christ. And what we are saying is that there is power available to us which enables us to turn away from sin.

*Jude 1:24 ...'Now unto **him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy.**'*

Romans 8:37 ...'in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.'

*Romans 8:1-8 ...'There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are **in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit**. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death. For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.'*

*John 8:11 ...'And Jesus said unto her, Neither do I condemn thee: go, **and sin no more.**'*

Friends, a time is coming soon when the door of mercy to sinners will shut forever. Just like in the days of Noah, when God shut the door to the ark, and the people outside did not realize that probation for them had come to an end. You see, if we continue in sin and just accept the mainstream view that we cannot live sin free lives in Jesus, then we become the kind of people the apostle Paul warned us about in 2 Timothy:

2 Timothy 3:1-5 ...'This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers,

*incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; **Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof:** from such turn away.'*

Do you see what the problem is here? It is **LOVE OF SELF**. This is what caused Adam and Eve to fall in the first place. This is what caused Lucifer to fall and what traps the world AND the churches in sin! SELFishness! We look to self instead of looking to Jesus Christ.

Oh friends, we cannot go along with the mainstream view that we will continue in sin. We MUST claim the promise of God, that we will be filled with His Spirit and made to be partakers of the divine nature, overcoming sin and being more than conquerors through Jesus Christ. Will you claim that promise today? Are you willing to turn from your sins and give up all for Christ? He is waiting for a people in these last days who will show the world the TRUE character of God. A people who will 'follow the Lamb wheresoever He goeth' (Revelation 14:4).

Revelation 22:11-12 ...'*He that is unjust, **let him be unjust still:** and he which is filthy, **let him be filthy still:** and he that is righteous, **let him be righteous still:** and he that is holy, **let him be holy still.** And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.'*

Which side will you be on when the pronouncement is made? Will you still be sinning and therefore REMAIN IN SIN and receive the just reward of the lake of fire and the second death? Or will you have gained the victory over sin through Jesus Christ and receive the just reward of eternal life?

2 Timothy 2:19 ...'*Let every one that nameth the name of Christ **depart from iniquity.***

*"Whosoever therefore shall **break** one of these least commandments, **and shall teach men so,** shall be called the least in the kingdom of Heaven." They can have no part with Him who came to magnify the law and make it honorable. They are deceiving the people with their sophistry,--saying to the sinner, 'It shall be well with thee,' when God has declared that "the soul that sinneth ['transgresseth the law'] it shall die" ... "And shall teach men so." This is a point worthy of careful consideration. Christ foresaw that men would not only break the commandments of God themselves, but would in a special sense teach others to break them. Every Sabbath-breaker is by his example teaching others to transgress. But some are not content with this. They defend the sin of breaking the fourth commandment, and pervert the word of God to justify the transgressor. Such persons shall be of no esteem in the reign of Heaven,--shall have no part there. But the greatest guilt rests upon the professed watchmen, and they will receive the severest punishment. They are in the highest sense enemies of Christ, as they put on, over corrupt hearts, the livery of Heaven to serve the devil in. **They do not hesitate to speak evil of the law, and even make those who do not study the Bible for themselves, believe that the curse of God is upon them if they keep it.** All we have to do, say they, is to believe in Christ,--come to Christ. The most fatal delusion of the Christian world in this generation is, that in pouring contempt on the law of God they think they are exalting Christ. What a position! In so doing, they array Christ against Christ. It was Christ who spoke the law from Sinai. It was Christ who gave the law to Moses, engraven on tables of stone. It was his Father's law; and Christ says, "I and my Father are one." The Pharisees held the reverse of the modern-position, but were in just as great an error. They rejected Christ, but exalted the law. And it makes little difference which position we take, so long as*

we ignore the true one,--**that faith in Christ must be accompanied by obedience to the law of God.**" (E.White, Review and Herald, Sept.27, 1881, pgr.13-15)